

Index of AIR Report

Issue: National Accreditation/NCATE

To ensure that the work group discussion takes into consideration the work of AIR, staff has prepared the following index of where in the AIR report one can find information pertaining to that discussion. Below is an index of where in their evaluation report AIR makes reference to either national accreditation broadly, or NCATE specifically. For exact language used in the report, please refer to the report itself. Relevant recommendations or findings are noted in the last column.

Staff note: The AIR study examined issues of national accreditation within the existing structure and Framework. As a result, AIR examined the merged NCATE/CCTC relationship as it is implemented. The report did not examine or comment on whether the existing structure is the most effective, or appropriate structure to carry out California Education Code.

Page	Description of Narrative	F or R*
6 & 85	Contains finding that, “CCTC’s partnership with NCATE reflects a strong commitment to assist California institutions seeking national accreditation. This commitment is reflected in the recently renegotiated partnership between the Commission and NCATE. Challenges to implementing this partnership include alignment between CCTC standards and the subjective personal interaction between state and national teams in data collection and decision-making.”	F
56-58	Describes several of the impediments to coordination of NCATE and CCTC standards: using different formats, understanding the differences between the standards; recognizing the distinct roles of BIR members versus NCATE team members; reconciliation of reports; understanding how the two processes articulate	
75	Summarizes survey data (IHEs and review team participants). Concludes that there was general agreement that conducting merged NCATE/CCTC visits was a good idea.	
75-76	Summarizes from survey concerns raised about merged NCATE/CCTC visits. (personality conflicts, NCATE process as implemented in California, NCATE dominating team discussion, lack of knowledge of California programs and requirements by NCATE reviewers; quality and qualifications of NCATE reviewers; complexity of merged visits.	
91-92	Contains recommendation that CCTC review the need for maintaining Options 3, General Program Standard. In so doing, AIR comments on “The National and Professional Standards (Option 2) is particularly important for specialized programs and allows them to participate fully in their professions, and so therefore should be maintained.”	R
97	Recommends that on merged visits, all BIR members need specific orientation to the NCATE 2000 standards, similarities and differences from CCTC Common Standards, to enable all team members, not simply those on Common Standards cluster, to effectively gather and triangulate data using the NCATE standards as a measuring tool.	R

F= Finding; R= Recommendation